

HOUSE RESOLUTION 69

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Dr. Anthony R. Moton of Pontiac, Michigan.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Reverend Dr. Anthony R. Moton of Pontiac, Michigan, formerly of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Anthony Moton devoted his life to serving others and to improving the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a 1981 graduate of G.W. Carver High School, Reverend Moton earned his bachelor's degree in public administration and sociology from Tennessee State University in 1987; he went on to attend La Salle University, earning first his master's degree in Christian counseling in 2001 and then his Doctorate of Philosophy in Theo-Centric Psychology in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Anthony Moton earned two more doctorate degrees in his lifetime, a Ph.D. in Theology from Arkansas Theological Seminary/School of Religion in 2003 and a Doctorate of Divinity from I.N.F.O.R.M./Institute of Biblical Studies in 2004; and

WHEREAS, he began his career as a counselor working at both St. Joseph Hospital in Memphis, where he counseled adolescents and adults with various forms of psychosomatic ailments, and the University of Tennessee at Memphis, where he worked as a counselor in the Behavioral Health Center, from 1996 until 1998; and

WHEREAS, from 1998 until 1999, Reverend Moton continued to work in a healthcare setting, serving as a mental health technician at Memphis Mental Health Institute, where he provided medical, psychiatric, and technical support; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Anthony Moton parlayed his experience working with and mentoring youth and vulnerable populations into a career as a teacher, in which capacity he continued to be a positive force in the lives of young people. From 2000 until 2003, he served

as a career development specialist and teacher at Memphis City Schools through Memphis Partners, Inc.; then, from 2005 until 2007, he worked as a part-time instructor at Southwest Community College in Memphis, teaching developmental skills and career readiness to young adults at pre-college and college levels; and

WHEREAS, concurrent with his service in counseling and education was his work in the church; beginning as an associate minister and director of prison ministry at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Nashville, he then went on to become co-pastor at Taylor Chapel in Memphis, a post he held from 1995 until 2005; and

WHEREAS, during that time, he also served with other churches in Memphis. He was pastor emeritus at Faith In God Church and a pastoral associate at Salem-Gilfield Church from 2000 through 2003; in 2005, he served as a pastoral associate at Mt. Zion Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Anthony Moton served in various churches in Memphis from 1991 until he relocated to Michigan in 2009, making untold contributions to the city's faith community for nearly two decades; and

WHEREAS, from 2009 until the time of his death, Reverend Moton was the general overseer, emeritus, at Christ Truth International Ministries in Detroit, Michigan, where he advised senior pastors, pastors, and staff; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Reverend Anthony Moton was affiliated with various professional organizations, including the Memphis Baptist Ministerial Association, the National Baptist Convention, Citizens for Better Service, the New Minister Institute of Memphis, and the Memphis/Shelby County Community Empowerment Council; and

WHEREAS, often duly honored and sought for his counsel, Reverend Moton was a Memphis City Council Honoree/Pastor for the Day, the closing speaker at the 2003 Black Caucus Legislative Retreat, a guest on community radio talk shows, and a speaker and facilitator for local and national church and community events; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Moton was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Anthony Moton leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the common thread that ran through all of Reverend Moton's accomplishments was a keen desire to help others through counseling and ministry; he improved the lives of so many in innumerable ways, and his good works will continue to resonate throughout the communities in which he served; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Reverend Dr. Anthony R. Moton, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Reverend Dr. Anthony R. Moton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.